

## **Executive Order 2004-07**

### **Aging 2020 Plan**

**WHEREAS**, by 2020, 26 percent of Arizona's population will be over 60 years of age compared to 17 percent in 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, Arizona's fastest growing age group is seniors, primarily women, over 85 years old; and

**WHEREAS**, even though older individuals are healthier than ever before, their collective need for health care will increase significantly over the next three decades; and

**WHEREAS**, a growing number of older Arizonans will reach retirement with a diversity of cultural experiences, a wide array of skills, and an interest in remaining actively engaged in work and civic life; and

**WHEREAS**, the graying of the workforce in the next two decades will provide both a challenge and an opportunity to reinvent work expectations and job functions; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to maintain healthy communities and a strong economic environment, it is critical that Arizona be prepared for the significant changes that will take place in the state's demographics in the coming years; and

**WHEREAS**, older Arizonans are affected by multiple services provided by various state agencies and the coordinated efforts of these state agencies and institutions are essential to providing efficient and quality services; and

**WHEREAS**, a critical component of service provision to older persons requires consideration at the highest level of government of issues affecting their well being;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, by the powers vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State, do hereby order the creation of Aging 2020, a plan to prepare the state for the significant changes that will occur with the increase in the state's over-65 population in the next 15 years.

Each Executive Branch Department designated by the Governor is directed to:

1. Appoint a lead staff person to oversee the development of the Department's component of the Aging 2020 Plan.
2. Review the data to be provided by the Governor's policy staff on the demographic changes that will take place over the next 15 years and assess the implications of those changes on public policy and civic life.

3. Participate in the Aging 2020 Summit, to be held as part of the 2004 Governor's Conference on Aging, to receive input from citizens and service providers regarding issues that should be considered in the development of the Aging 2020 Plan.
4. Analyze how the demographic changes will affect the Department's workforce and constituency.
5. Develop recommendations regarding ways the Department and the community as a whole can prepare, over the next five to seven years, for the coming demographic changes to ensure a good quality of life for Arizona's seniors and the state as whole.
6. Seek public input on the Department's recommendations.
7. Report the Department's recommendations and a proposed implementation plan to the Governor's Policy staff no later than September 30, 2004.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

**GOVERNOR**

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this 16 day of March in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Four and of the independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Twenty-Eighth.

**ATTEST:**

**SECRETARY OF STATE**